

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Mark Sanders  
Serial No. : Not yet assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
Title : CONTENT PROPAGATION IN INTERACTIVE TELEVISION

Art Unit : Unknown  
Examiner : Unknown

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Before examination, please amend the application as follows:

**In the claims:**

Cancel claims 1-55

Insert claims 56-60 as set forth below:

**56. An interactive television system, comprising:**

a set top box for interfacing a television receiver to the system, the set top box including a storage element;

a plurality of interconnected video servers storing digital viewing assets for viewers; and

a control unit connected to the video servers, the control unit configured to control copying, into the storage element, a missing portion of a replica of a selected viewing asset in response to a

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6/29/01

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comparison between a first value and a second value, the first value being indicative of a priority of propagating the selected asset into the storage element and the second value being indicative of a value of retaining a replica of one or more other assets already stored in the storage element.

**57.** The system of claim **56**, wherein the control unit is further configured to record usage data for the assets stored in the storage element.

**58.** The system of claim **56**, further comprising:

a plurality of distribution networks to couple the servers to the set top boxes and to provide channels for delivering viewing assets to viewer televisions, each distribution network being connected to a subset of the video servers.

**59.** The system of claim **56** wherein the control unit is configured to accumulate, from the video servers, usage data on the viewing assets.

**60.** A computer program product comprising computer executable instructions for propagating viewing assets into a storage medium, the instructions causing a computer to:

order copying of a missing portion of a replica of a selected viewing asset into the storage medium on a target device in response to comparison between a first value and a second value, the first value being indicative of a priority of propagating the selected asset into the storage element and the second value being indicative of a value of retaining a replica of one or more other assets already stored in the storage element.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 07442-012002

### REMARKS

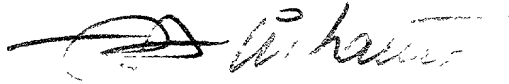
Applicant provides additional claims for claiming another aspect of the invention. No new matter is introduced.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Please apply any charges to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/25/01



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